

A. Is this the 1½ per month percent bill? It seems to be the feeling of most people who are expert in that field that this is a reasonable measure and if it is successful, at the moment I can see no reason why I wouldn't concur in its enactment.

Q. Governor, another related bill, which last I heard is still very much alive, is the so called O'Connor bill that Bank Commissioners will increase the legal rate of interest to 8%. The bill has other broad ramifications. Would you take any stand on this?

A. I haven't had a chance to examine that bill, Jack, in any detail. My position is the same as it was in a very early press conference in which I said I would not be against an increase in the legal rate of interest provided all the methods of getting around it and supplementing it with additional charges could be eliminated. In short, I think the public has a right to know exactly what it is being charged for the privilege of borrowing money. And any type procedures that fog over the true picture and make a person believe he's getting something for less than he's really getting it for, I am against. I would have to look at that bill specifically, because I haven't seen it in detail.

Q. Well that bill does do that and it has some other broad implications on other fields of credit.

A. I'll take a look at it.

Q. Governor, during debate in the Senate, again on the Constitutional Convention with regard to the final vote of 72 or 85, the Republican block seemed to be voting against your desire until you had a meeting last week. Was there a breakdown of communication?

A. Well there's always a difficulty, in a busy time when the Legislature is in session, to maintain perfect communication. And I would say our communication was not exactly all that we desired it to be during that period. Consequently, I met with the Senators, and we have improved our regular meeting schedule to a great extent.

Q. Governor, on the crossings, I got here a few minutes late and I don't know what you said publicly about your feelings on the Baltimore Harbor crossing. Do you have a statement?

A. Well my feeling was that, and again my feeling merely reflects the technical and professional advice of Mr. Wolff in whom I've got total confidence or else I wouldn't have appointed him, that a second Harbor crossing leaves the Commission with more flexibility. Now the tunnel as opposed to crossings seems to have these financial distinctions, and again I would like to make these clear. First of all, to